Applicant does not attempt to claim all remotely activated power devices, but instead the particular combinations provided in the claims that make the invention a long sought solution in providing power cycling for networking devices.

Response to Rejection

The claims, as amended, are not anticipated or rendered obvious by optionally controllable power supplies (such as discussed in the EMM reference) that teach that a separate control cable and signal are used to control the power supply.

The claims, as amended, also are not anticipated or rendered obvious by power supplies (such as shown in Lord) that teach that a telephone connection is needed to control the power supply, including in some cases the need for a modem to be continually powered on in order to detect codes or ringing on a telephone connection.

In fact, these references, teach away from the concept of the present invention that allows control of a network device not requiring any separate control connections or control cabling beyond the network cabling that is already present to connect the networking device and in a housing that can be placed in a single rack unit, while providing the necessary clearance.

Lord U.S. 5198806

The patent discuss a remote controller for a personal computer wherein an external modem 40, which is "supplied with operating power continuously," is enabled to receive, over a telephone line, a control signal and is then able to indicate to a controller 10 to power up a computer, after the modem has authorized an incoming user. A serial signal 60 passes from the modem through the controller 10 and to the personal computer over line 70. Control software is used to make the invention operate.

Singh U.S. 5347167

The patent discuss a remote controller for a personal computer wherein an external modem 23 receives and can send a signal to a power controller 2. Communication signals are not passed through the controller to reach the controlled computer system 11.

Ortiz

The patent discuss a remote controlling device wherein various outlets can be controlled by various means. One outlet may be controlled by detecting of a telephone ring signal that is derived from a pair of pass-through telephone jacks. Other serial signals are not pass-through signals.

Cheng I U.S. 5563455

The patent discuss a power sequencer that "senses the current through a first outlet ...and when the current through the first outlet exceeds a first threshold voltage,... provides power to a second outlet.

Cheng II U.S. 5644174

The patent also discuss a power sequencer, with further provisions for daisy chaining. CONTROL IN is described as a separately generated control signal that can also be used for daisy chaining. There is no illustration of a network signal or standard network port being used for controlling operation.

EMM 96

Applicant has reviewed the catalog pages provided by the Examiner. None of the indicated power supplies discuss in any detail the method of operation of the remote feature of the power supplies. Applicant has therefore located additional information about these parts (see the attached letter to the Examiner). This additional information demonstrates that none of the cited power supplies use a standard network signal to control ON/OFF operation. These supplies, instead, require a separate signal to be run to the supplies from a computing device, especially for the purpose of remote operation. In some designs, THIS CONTROL SIGNAL, can be passed through the power supply to ANOTHER POWER SUPPLY ONLY to provide for a number of power supplies to be controlled by the same control signal.

The present invention, in contrast, REQUIRES NO SEPARATE CONTROL SIGNAL to be run to the power supply control mechanism. Instead, the invention ALLOWS THE ALREADY PROVIDED NETWORK CABLE AND ADAPTER to simply be plugged into the power supply and then allows that signal to pass through the controller to reach the networking device. Thus, remote power cycling can be accomplished USING AN EXISTING NETWORK cable and connection and

REQUIRING NO ADDITIONAL CONTROL DEVICES, SIGNALS, or CABLING. The invention, further, due to its design and arrangement of NETWORK PORTS and POWER OUTLETS, allows this network signal to be used in a one rack unit power supply, while providing signal clearance and required by FCC regulations.

Applicant has therefore addressed each of the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103. In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (415) 248-5500.

Dated: October 31, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

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